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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/790,184	03/02/2004	Takashi Oshima	520.43569X00	2953
20457	7590	11/29/2005	EXAMINER	
ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP 1300 NORTH SEVENTEENTH STREET SUITE 1800 ARLINGTON, VA 22209-3873			SHINGLETON, MICHAEL B	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2817	

DATE MAILED: 11/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

*Supplemental*  
**Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/790,184

Examiner

*Shingleton*

Applicant(s)

OSHIMA ET AL.

Art Unit

2817

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--**

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is ~~responsive to~~ supplemental to the NOA mailed 8-24-05.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-10.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* Certified copies not received: \_\_\_\_\_.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.  
**THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.**

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

**Attachment(s)**

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☐ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other \_\_\_\_\_

*Robert Pascal*  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2800  
Robert Pascal  
Supervisory Patent Examiner  
Technology Center 2800

Art Unit: 2817

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it MUST be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Claim 1, line 9 as presented in the preamendment filed March 2, 2004 has been amended to insert --directly-- between "control" and "received".

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Paul Skwierawski on November 21, 2005.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Original) A variable gain amplifier circuit comprising:  
a plurality of variable gain circuits;  
a plurality of level detector circuits which detect signal levels at respective inputs of said plurality of variable gain circuits; and  
a plurality of gain control circuits which separately control respective gains of said plurality of variable gain circuits,  
wherein each of said plurality of gain control circuits determines a gain to be set therein, based on the signal level detected by one which is connected thereto of said plurality of level detector circuits and information about gain control <sup>directly</sup> received from a part or all of other gain control circuits existing in its preceding stage or stages.

2. (Original) The variable gain amplifier circuit according to claim 1,  
wherein said plurality of level detector circuits are connected to said plurality of variable gain circuits, respectively, and  
wherein said plurality of gain control circuits are connected to said plurality of level detector circuits, respectively.

3. (Original) The variable gain amplifier circuit according to claim 1, further comprising:  
a plurality of filters separately connected to respective outputs of said plurality of variable gain amplifiers; and